AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1-47.   (Cancelled)

48.   (Currently amended) A method of facilitating a lottery ticket transaction, ~~the lottery ticket being associated with a lottery number combination,~~ comprising:

receiving a request by a player to purchase a lottery ticket for a lottery drawing<u>, wherein the lottery ticket is assigned a lottery number combination</u>;

determining whether a request has been made by the player that the lottery number combination be exclusively <u>assigned to</u> ~~associated with~~ only a single lottery ticket for the lottery drawing<u>, such that the lottery number combination will not be assigned to any other lottery ticket purchased for the lottery drawing</u>;

performing one of (a) or (b):

(a) if a request that the lottery number combination be exclusively <u>assigned to</u> ~~associated with~~ only a single lottery ticket has been made by the player, in response to the request by the player that the lottery number combination be exclusively <u>assigned to</u> ~~associated with~~ only a single lottery ticket for the lottery drawing,

determining the lottery number combination such that the lottery number combination is exclusively <u>assigned to</u> ~~associated with~~ only a single lottery ticket for the lottery drawing,

in which determining the lottery number combination comprises using a random process to select at least one number of the lottery number combination; and

preventing the lottery number combination from being <u>assigned to</u> ~~associated with~~ at least one additional lottery ticket for the lottery drawing; or

(b) if a request that the lottery number combination be exclusively <u>assigned to</u> ~~associated with~~ only a single lottery ticket has not been made by the player, determining the lottery number combination such that it is possible that at

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the time of the lottery drawing the lottery number combination could be <u>assigned</u> <u>to</u> ~~associated with~~ more than one lottery ticket for the lottery drawing;
and

outputting an indication of the lottery number combination determined according to either (a) or (b).

49-51. (Cancelled)

52.   (Currently amended) A method comprising:

receiving, from a lottery terminal at a retail store, a request to purchase a lottery ticket for a drawing in a pari-mutuel lottery;

receiving, from the lottery terminal, an indication of a request by a player that a set of symbols is to be <u>assigned to</u> ~~associated with~~ no more than a predetermined number of lottery tickets <u>sold</u> with respect to the drawing;

in response to receiving the indication from the lottery terminal, determining the set of symbols; and

transmitting an indication of the determined set of symbols to the lottery terminal.

53.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the predetermined number of lottery tickets is one lottery ticket.

54.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 52, further comprising:

preventing at least one lottery ticket from being <u>sold</u> ~~associated~~ with the determined set of symbols.

55.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising:

determining a lottery ticket identifier.

56.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 55, further comprising:

transmitting an indication of the lottery ticket identifier to the lottery terminal.

57.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 52, wherein determining the set of symbols comprises:

        determining a set of symbols that has not previously been assigned to ~~associated with~~ any lottery ticket with respect to the drawing.

58.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 57, further comprising:

        preventing at least one lottery ticket from being sold ~~associated~~ with the determined set of symbols.

59.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising:

        storing an indication of a price for the lottery ticket.

60.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 59 further comprising:

        determining the price based on the predetermined number of lottery tickets.

61.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 59 further comprising:

        determining the price based on the received indication.

62.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein determining the set of symbols comprises:

        randomly determining the set of symbols.

63.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 62 further comprising:

        verifying that the randomly determined set of symbols has not previously been assigned to ~~associated with~~ at least one other lottery ticket for the drawing.

64.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 62 further comprising:

        preventing at least one lottery ticket from being sold ~~associated~~ with the randomly determined set of symbols.

65.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising:

printing a lottery ticket that includes the determined set of symbols.

66-67. (Cancelled)

68.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 52, in which the predetermined number is selected by the player, without the player purchasing any more than one of the predetermined number of lottery tickets.

69.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, in which the predetermined number is not selected by a lottery authority.

70.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, further comprising:

        receiving, from the lottery terminal, an indication of a selection by the player of the predetermined number from a plurality of available options.

71.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 70, in which the plurality of available options includes an option to have no maximum number.

72.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 70, in which the plurality of available options is predetermined by a lottery authority.

73.   (Currently amended) A computer readable medium storing instructions configured to direct a computing device to perform steps of:

        receiving, from a lottery terminal at a retail store, a request to purchase a lottery ticket for a drawing in a pari-mutuel lottery;

        receiving, from the lottery terminal, an indication of a request by a player that a set of symbols is to be assigned to associated with no more than a predetermined number of lottery tickets sold with respect to the drawing;

        in response to receiving the indication from the lottery terminal, determining the set of symbols; and

        transmitting an indication of the determined set of symbols to the lottery terminal.

74.   (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and

a storage device in communication with the processor, the storage device storing instructions configured to direct the processor to perform steps of:

receiving, from a lottery terminal at a retail store, a request to purchase a lottery ticket for a drawing in a pari-mutuel lottery;

receiving, from the lottery terminal, an indication of a request by a player that a set of symbols is to be assigned to associated with no more than a predetermined number of lottery tickets sold with respect to the drawing;

in response to receiving the indication from the lottery terminal, determining the set of symbols; and

transmitting an indication of the determined set of symbols to the lottery terminal.

75.   (Currently amended) A method comprising:

receiving, from a lottery terminal at a retail store, a request to purchase a first quick pick lottery ticket for a drawing in a pari-mutuel lottery game;

receiving, from the lottery terminal, an indication of a request by a player that a set of symbols for the quick pick is to be assigned to associated with no more than a definite number of randomly determined occurrences with respect to the drawing;

in response to receiving the indication from the lottery terminal, randomly determining the set of symbols, where the randomly determined set of symbols may otherwise be assigned to associated with an indefinite number of randomly determined occurrences greater than the definite number of randomly determined occurrences were it not for receiving the indication of the request from the player that the set of symbols is to be assigned to associated with no more than the definite number of randomly determined occurrences with respect to the drawing;

storing an indication that the randomly determined set of symbols is to be assigned to associated with no more than the definite number of randomly determined occurrences with respect to the drawing;

preventing subsequent random determination of the set of symbols with respect to at least a second quick pick lottery ticket for the drawing; and

outputting a record of the randomly determined set of symbols for the player.